யிருக்கிறோம்" என்று காரணம் சொல்லப்பட்டது. இனிமேல் இந்த மாதிரியான நிலைமை ஏற்படாமல் இருப்பதற்கு நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்படுமா ?

கனம் திரு. வி. ராமய்யா : இது இந்த வருஷமே நிவர்த்தி செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. மேலும், இனிமேல் இந்த விஷயத்தில் அங்குள்ள எஞ்ஜினியர் முதலியவர்கள் அரசாங்கத்தில் வைத்துள்ள 'மான்யுவல்'-ஐ அனுஷ்டிக்க வேண்டும் என்று சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது.

Procurement of paddy and rice

3-20 p.m. * 175. *Q.*—SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) the maximum and minimum prices fixed for the procurement of paddy and rice in the State ;

(*b*) whether the maximum prices fixed includes administrative charge, surcharge and incidental charges ;

(*c*) if so, what are they ;

(*d*) whether the Government are aware that the prices are not strictly adhered to while selling the rice in retail; and

(*e*) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : (*a*) to (*e*) A paper [a] is placed on the Table of the House.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Sir, the reply given is not clear as to the various kinds of paddy and the prices fixed for them. There are a large number of varieties and for nearly twenty varieties prices have been fixed. What is the reason for prescribing twenty varieties and what are the prices for each, Sir ?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : Sir, with katta samba as the basis, we have fixed prices for other varieties. I think the prices for the different varieties are already given in Government Order.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Sir, in the Government Order there is one variety called ayan samba for which the maximum price has been fixed. Where in the district is this ayan samba available and what is the price fixed for it ? What is the criterion which is applied to it ?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : If it is not known to the hon. Member who comes from Tiruchi district, it will be a well known variety in another district. This is a variety for which people have got a special preference. In fixing the prices, generally the duration, which it takes for ripening, is taken into consideration.

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a Printed as Appendix III on page 60.

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SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : For all the other samba varieties, the period for ripening is six months. Even for ayan samba it is six months. I do not think it is more than six months. The Hon. Minister said that ayan samba was not available in Tiruchi.

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : I did not say so. I said that if the hon. Member did not know it, it would be known in other districts.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Sir, for nearly 20 to 30 years I have experience in paddy and rice. I have never come across anything like the so-called ayan samba. It is only after the control and the introduction of the recent order, this ayan samba has come into vogue. Several varieties of paddy and rice have been passed and prices have been fixed for each variety. The customers are forced to pay a very high price for rice. Are the Government aware of this?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : I have not received any complaint. But if the hon. Member writes to me that in this particular variety there is going to be some misuse, I will look into it.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : As regards the first point, the Government say that they have fixed the price and that the Collectors have been authorised to reduce the price for transport from villages to assembly points. But the real fact is that Collectors are insisting not only on payment of the assembly point price but the maximum price in the village itself. The procuring agents are compelled to pay the maximum price. That is the real fact. In such cases, even granting that at the assembly point an allowance is given at 50 Paise, is it enough? Even in the village itself the charge is nearly 50 Paise per bag of paddy. In such cases the allowance given is not enough. Will the Government consider the matter and fix the actual expenditure involved ?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : The complaint I have received is that the allowance fixed is too high, and that it should be reduced. Another complaint which I am constantly getting is that the procuring agents, when they go to a village, find offers at much lower than the floor price or the support price in which case Government have to step in to guarantee the mimimum price to the agriculturists.

Siruvani drinking water-supply scheme.

* 176. *Q.*—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN (on behalf of DR. T. V. Sivanandam): Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) the result of negotiations between this State and Kerala State with reference to the Siruvani drinking water-supply scheme to Coimbatore ;